

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY  
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

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**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 6470**

**BILL NUMBER:** HB 1289

**NOTE PREPARED:** Nov 26, 2003

**BILL AMENDED:**

**SUBJECT:** Sheriff's Suspension Power.

**FIRST AUTHOR:** Rep. Goodin

**FIRST SPONSOR:**

**BILL STATUS:** As Introduced

**FUNDS AFFECTED:**     **GENERAL**  
                              **DEDICATED**  
                              **FEDERAL**

**IMPACT:** Local

**Summary of Legislation:** The bill reduces the maximum time that a county police officer may be suspended without a hearing from 15 days to five days. It also specifies the use of calendar days.

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2004.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:**

**Explanation of State Revenues:**

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:** Indiana's 92 county sheriff departments could experience reductions in salary savings for officers suspended without pay. The specific effects of this bill would vary by department and would depend upon local action.

*Background Information:* Under current law, the fiscal body of each county is required to establish (by ordinance) a sheriff's merit board. Merit boards consist of five members, three of whom are appointed by the county sheriff, and two are elected by a majority vote of the county police force.

Appointments last for four years or for the remainder of an unexpired term. Not more than two members appointed by the county sheriff, nor more than one of the members elected by majority vote can be of the same political party. Merit boards are required to hold regular monthly meetings.

**Explanation of Local Revenues:**

**State Agencies Affected:**

**Local Agencies Affected:** County Sheriff Departments.

**Information Sources:** IC 36-8-10-3.

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